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REMARKS

For the Examiner's convenience, Applicants will now address stated issues and grounds for rejection of the pending claims under appropriate headings.

Specification Amendment

The Related Applications paragraph has been updated.

Rejection of Claims 1-10 for Obviousness-Type Double Patenting

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-10 for Obviousness-Type Double Patenting over Claims 1-7 of commonly owned U.S. Patent No. 5,711,968. In order to obviate the rejection, Applicants are concurrently filing a Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(c) over U.S. Patent Nos.5,711,968, 6,165,508 and 6,379,701 B1. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks and concurrent filing of a Tenninal Disclaimer, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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